is regularly monitoring movement of coal to power utilities so that optimisation of available coal and transport logistics are ensured to reduce the number of power stations under critical category at minimum level. The monthly coal allocations to power stations by Standing Linkage Committee is being reviewed on quarterly basis and suitable changes are made in allocations keeping in view the need of the particular power station. Movement of coal to power stations is also periodically reviewed at the level of Cabinet Secretariat.

I.T. revolution

348. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to allot Rs. 500 crore for IT kiosks in villages in the country;

(b) if so, the details of their action plan; and

(c) the details of the action plan of Government to take the IT revolution to the villages of Orissa State under the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) Department of Information Technology is working on a plan to establish 100,000 Common Service Centres across the country by the year 2007. Such Centres would have the flexibility to offer a mix of services (both Government and non-Government including localized services) that may be needed by the local community. Orissa could also be one of the beneficiary States for the CSCs.

Credibility of IT Industry

†349. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that recently details of the confidential accounts and passports of British Nationals had been leaked by an officer of an Indian Business process Outsourcing company;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Prime Minister has emphasised the need to make the IT law more stringent to maintain the credibility of IT Industry; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to take the suggestions in this regard from the IT companies and to enact the laws?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The Indian BPO in IT sector is a de-licensed activity. The BPO operations are governed by a legal contract between the parties. Government does not directly regulate such activities. A report had appeared on June 23, 2005 in The sun (UK), resulting from an investigation by their reporter, about the alleged sale of customer data by an employee of a call center near Delhi.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) the following steps are being taken:

— Revisiting the IT Act 2000 and Introduction of amendments, if any, to the If Act 2000 that will provide stringent measures against the Criminals. An expert committee has been set up for this purpose.

— Training and supporting Indian Law enforcement agencies to ensure that they are well equipped to tackle cyber crimes.

— Establishment of a register of IT professionals by NASSCOM to ensure that only suitable staff is employed in the Industry.

Issue of debit cards by Postal Department

350. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Postal Department is planning to issue debit cards for the benefit of their account holders;